

March 2000

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF THAILAND FOR PORCINE SEMEN EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

The semen must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate must include the name and address of the semen production center, the names of the consignor and consignee, full identification (including breed) of the donor boar, the date of semen collection, and a full description of the permanent marking(s) on the straws/ampules of semen. Additional information must include:

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The United States is free of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), Rinderpest, African Swine Fever, Swine Vesicular Disease, Hog Cholera (Classical Swine Fever), Vesicular Exanthema, and Teschen Disease.
2. The semen for export to Thailand was produced in a semen production center which is approved by the USDA and subjected to inspection at least twice a year. The semen production center meets the general criteria listed in Appendix 4.2.2.1. of the OIE International Animal Health Code.
3. All boars/teasers in the semen production center met the preisolation and 30-day-isolation requirements stipulated in Appendix 4.2.2.1. of the OIE International Animal Health Code (including negative tests for Tuberculosis and Brucellosis, the only tests required) prior to entering the general population.
4. The semen production center is free of Tuberculosis and Brucellosis and all the animals have been tested at regular intervals (the interval between tests must not exceed 12 months).
5. The semen production center was free of clinical cases of Leptospirosis, Vesicular Stomatitis, Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS), Atrophic Rhinitis, and Transmissible Gastroenteritis (TGE) during the 12 months prior to collection of the semen for export and has remained free of clinical cases of these diseases through the date of shipment of the semen to Thailand.
6. The semen production center is free of Aujeszky's Disease.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

All donor boars in the semen production center must test negative to the following diseases:

1. Aujeszky's Disease: Serum neutralization (SN) test at a 1:4 dilution or ELISA (within 6 months prior to semen collection).
2. TGE: SN test at a 1:8 dilution or ELISA (within 6 months prior to semen collection).
3. PRRS: Indirect fluorescent antibody test at a 1:20 dilution or other approved tests (within 60 days prior to semen collection).
4. Vesicular Stomatitis: Complement fixation test, SN test, or ELISA (within 6 months prior to semen collection).
5. Leptospirosis: Microtiter agglutination test (within 6 months prior to semen collection).

NOTICE TO IMPORTERS

Failure to follow the import procedures may result in destruction of the semen without compensation.

APPENDIX 4.2.2.1.

PORCINE SEMEN

A. AIMS OF CONTROL

The purpose of official sanitary control of semen production is to maintain the health of animals on an *artificial insemination centre* at a standard which permits the international distribution of semen free of specific pathogenic organisms which can be carried in semen and cause infection in recipient female swine.

The disease position in one country generally differs from that in another, thus prophylactic programmes vary widely in the range of organisms for which donor boars are tested before admission to an *artificial insemination centre*, while in isolation, and periodically after full admission into the stud.

B. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Official sanitary control has to be practised on the lines of the following requirements as a prerequisite of an *artificial insemination centre* being eligible for the export of semen and the designation of 'accredited'.

1. Artificial insemination centre

- a) The centre should be officially approved by the *Veterinary Administration*.
- b) The centre should be under the direct supervision and sanitary control of an *Official Veterinarian*.
- c) The centre should be under the overall supervision of the Veterinary Administration, which is responsible for routine visits to check the health and welfare of animals, and the procedures and prescribed records at the centre at least every 6 months.
- d) Only swine associated with semen production should be permitted to enter the centre. Other species of livestock may exceptionally be resident on the centre, provided that they are kept physically apart from the swine.
- e) Swine on the centre should be adequately isolated from farm livestock on adjacent land or buildings for instance by natural or artificial means.

- f) The entry of visitors should be strictly controlled and personnel at a centre should be technically competent and observe high standards of personal hygiene to preclude the introduction of pathogenic organisms. Protective clothing and footwear for use only on the centre should be provided.
- g) Individual semen containers and storage rooms should be capable of being disinfected.

2. Boars

- a) Boars should only enter an *artificial insemination centre* if they fulfil the requirements laid down by the *Veterinary Administration*.
- b) The semen from boars with genetic defects or associated with genetic defects in near relatives may not be eligible for export.
- c) Boars must be clinically healthy and physiologically normal and must pass pre-entry tests within the 30 days prior to entry into isolation at an *artificial insemination centre*. The prescribed diseases and tests are listed in paragraph B3b).
- d) Boars must remain in isolation at an *artificial insemination centre* for a period of at least 30 days before being retested to meet the standards listed in paragraph B3. Boars may only enter the stud on the successful completion of these tests and must be clinically healthy.

3. Testing programme for boars on artificial insemination centres

a) Definitions

Prescribed tests cover a minimal range of diseases from which all boars on an artificial insemination centre must be free.

Routine tests are tests applied at regular intervals to confirm the continued freedom from disease of the stud.

b) Prescribed tests

i) Bovine tuberculosis

Boars to give negative results to intradermal tuberculin tests with mammalian tuberculin in accordance with the *Manual*.

ii)* Brucellosis (*B. abortus*, *B. suis*)

Boars to give negative results to serological tests in accordance with the *Manual*.

c) Routine tests

i)* Swine vesicular disease

Boars to give negative results to a serum-neutralisation test in accordance with the *Manual* (see also Articles 2.1.3.8. and 2.1.3.9. of this *Code*).

Routine tests to be applied at least every 12 months.

ii)* African swine fever

Boars to give negative results to enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assay and indirect immunofluorescent tests in accordance with the *Manual* (see also Articles 2.1.12.8. and 2.1.12.9. of this *Code*).

Routine tests to be applied at least every 6 months.

iii)* Enterovirus encephalomyelitis (ex Teschen disease)

Boars to meet certification standards in Articles 3.5.4.8. or 3.5.4.9. of this *Code*.

Routine tests to be applied at least every 12 months.

iv)* Vesicular stomatitis

Boars to give negative results to a complement fixation test in accordance with the *Manual*.

Routine tests to be applied at least every 12 months.

Claims of country freedom from some viral and bacterial infections of swine may be given consideration providing such claims are backed by serological survey data and epidemiological investigation.

C. OPTIONAL TESTS AND REQUIREMENTS

Artificial insemination centres may be required by the *Veterinary Administration* to include in their veterinary prophylactic programmes a number of other diseases, either through vaccination or by requiring negative results to serological tests.

Additionally, some *importing countries* may require assurances of freedom from a disease (for example: classical swine fever, Aujeszky's disease) based on negative serology or other biological tests. The range of infections to be covered is extensive and beyond the capacity of *artificial insemination centres* to support totally. Thus, optional tests remain to be applied and interpreted by bilateral agreement when the importation of semen is being considered.

Where a disease is covered by a Chapter in this *Code*, the testing requirements of the Chapter should be followed.

D. DILUENTS

Whenever milk, egg yolk or any other animal protein is used in preparing the semen diluent, the product must be free of pathogens or sterilised; milk heat-treated at 92°C for 3-5 minutes, eggs from SPF flocks when available. The inclusion of penicillin, streptomycin, polymixin etc. is permitted, provided that this is declared in the *international animal health certificate*.

E. SEMEN

Semen for export should be stored separately in fresh liquid nitrogen in sterilised flasks for at least 28 days.

The examination of ejaculates, and the dilution and freezing of semen must be carried out in a laboratory maintaining the hygienic standards set by the *Veterinary Administration*. The pre-sperm fraction should not be included in material to be stored. Only semen of a health standard equivalent to that produced in an *artificial insemination centre* should be handled.

The semen straws or pellets shall be code marked in line with national standards.

The containers must be sealed before export and accompanied by an *international animal health certificate* listing the contents.

F. DONOR BOAR

Records of the progeny of a donor boar should be maintained as far as possible to determine that he is not associated with any genetic defect. The records of the boar should indicate his fertility. The semen must be obtained from a boar with a normal libido.

* In countries where the diseases marked with an asterisk have not occurred and where country freedom is claimed in accordance with the criteria set out in the relative chapter of this *Code*, the pre-entry/post-entry and routine tests may be dispensed with.